AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A Web conference provisioning system comprising a policy manager executing in memory by a processor of a general purpose computing system, the policy manager being coupled to at least two different Web conferencing platforms over a computer communications network, said policy manager comprising a set of computer program instructions that when executed by the processor ~~having a configuration for~~ ~~processing~~ process a policy set forth in a policy document and ~~for processing~~ process a request for a Web conferencing from a communicatively linked end user to select one of said Web conferencing platforms to host said Web conference.

2.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said at least two different Web conferencing platforms comprise a platform selected from the group consisting of a customer premises equipment based platform and a hosted platform.

3.   (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a firewall disposed between said end user and said policy manager.

4.   (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a demilitarized zone firewall disposed in between said policy manager and end users coupled to said policy manager of a public Internet.

5.   Cancelled.

6.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said at least one policy specifies a platform selection based upon criteria selected from the group consisting of a number of participants to said Web conference, whether said participants are internal or external to a private network of said end user, a set of features desired for use in said Web conference, a security level required for said Web conference, and a priority of said Web conference.

7.   (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein said set of features comprises at least one feature selected from the group consisting of screen sharing, slideshow presentations, streaming audio, voice over IP, audio conferencing, the use of on-premise audio equipment, audio recording, joint Web browsing, chat and instant messaging and streaming video.

8.   (Currently Amended) A Web conference provisioning method comprising the steps of:
        establishing criteria for a proposed Web conference; and,
        applying, by a policy manager executing in memory by a processor of a general purpose computing system, at least one policy to said criteria to identify a platform for hosting said proposed Web conference.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the steps of:
        resolving an address to said identified platform;
        imbedding said address in an invitation to participate in said proposed Web conference; and,
        forwarding said invitation to selected participants in said proposed Web conference.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the steps of:

re-establishing said criteria; and,

applying said at least one policy to said re-established criteria to identify a different

platform for hosting said proposed Web conference.

11.   (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of performing said

establishing and applying steps responsive to a request to schedule said proposed Web

conference.

12.   (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of performing said

establishing and applying steps when activating said proposed Web conference.

13.   (Original) A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for

Web conference provisioning, the computer program comprising a routine set of instructions

which when executed by a machine causes the machine to perform the steps of:

establishing criteria for a proposed Web conference; and,

applying at least one policy to said criteria to identify a platform for hosting said

proposed Web conference.

14.   (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 13, further comprising the steps of:

resolving an address to said identified platform;

imbedding said address in an invitation to participate in said proposed Web conference;

and,

forwarding said invitation to selected participants in said proposed Web conference.

15.   (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 13, further comprising the steps of:

re-establishing said criteria; and,

applying said at least one policy to said re-established criteria to identify a different

platform for hosting said proposed Web conference.

16.   (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 13, further comprising the step of

performing said establishing and applying steps responsive to a request to schedule said

proposed Web conference.

17.   (Original) The machine readable storage of claim 13, further comprising the step of

performing said establishing and applying steps when activating said proposed Web conference.